

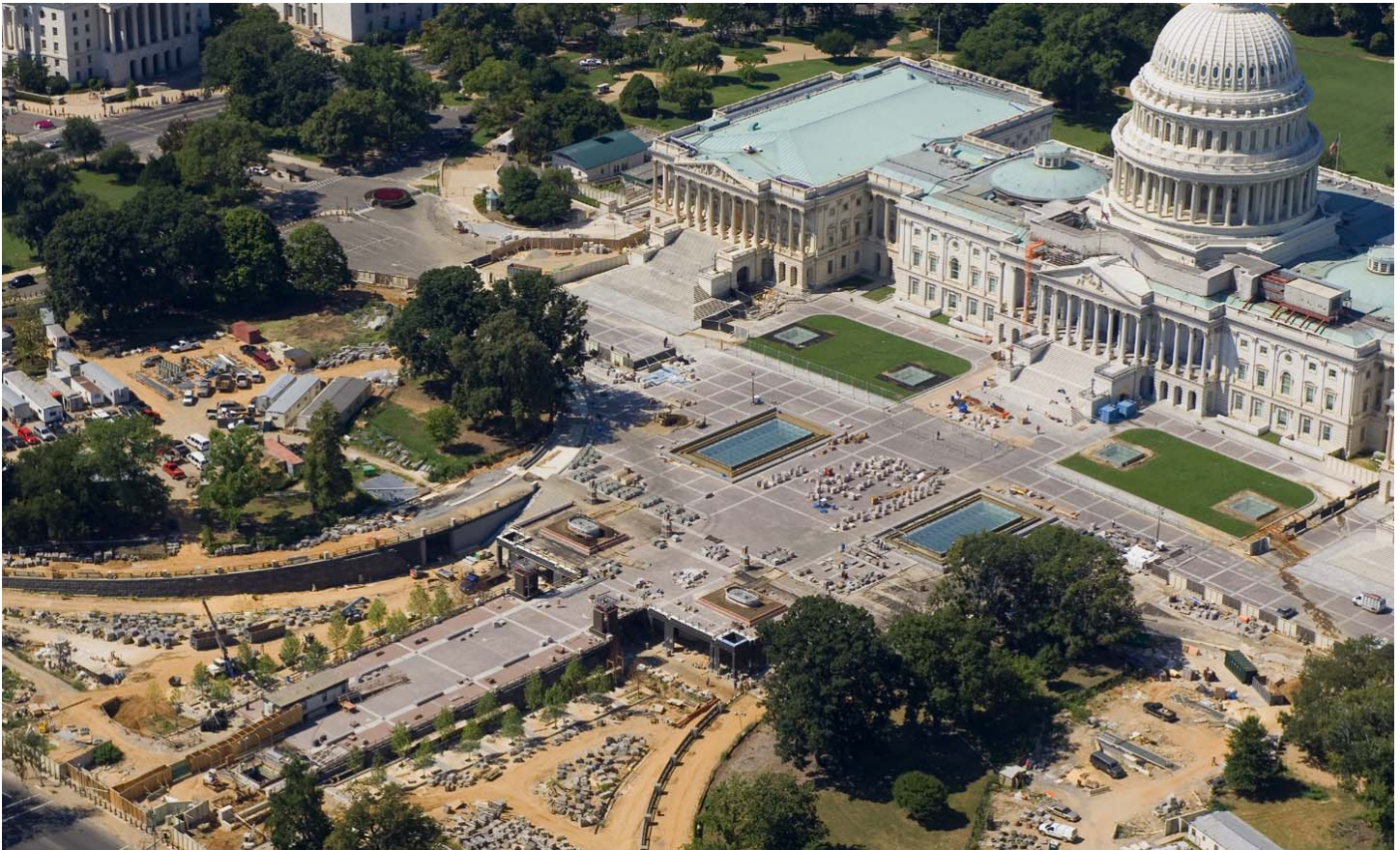


United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

August 21, 2006



This aerial photo taken August 16, 2006, shows current activities at the Capitol Visitor Center project site located within the East Capitol Grounds. Crews have completed the installation of two large skylights over the Great Hall (center) and masons have nearly completed the installation of historic stone elements, including fountains, lanterns and seatwalls. In the foreground (left) 32 new trees can be seen along the East Capitol Street Extension. More than 50 additional trees will be planted elsewhere within the project site later this fall. Excavation of the CVC site began four years ago, in August 2002, and one year later, in September 2003, the first steel column for the CVC structure was raised into place. Finish elements, including plaster, stone and millwork, are now being installed on all three levels inside the facility.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 8/21/06 through 8/25/06

CVC and East Front Plaza:

- Mason teams have now set approximately 98 percent of the floor stone in the Great Hall.
- Masons have nearly completed setting stone in the Crypt level within the East Front transition zone and stone installation is complete on the basement level. Crews have begun installation of the metal framework that will support the stone on the Rotunda and Gallery levels. Masons have begun to reinstall the marble panels that were removed four years ago from the walls near the Law Library and Memorial Doors.
- In the Exhibition Hall, masons have completed setting stone on the steps of the virtual House and Senate Theaters, the last remaining stonework in the Exhibition Hall. Crews have completed installing the ceiling insulation and plaster and will be applying a final coat of paint to the plaster this week. Once the ceiling work is approved, the scaffold will be dismantled and workers will begin assembling the steel support system for the marble “Wall of Aspirations,” which will approximately 50 historic documents.

- A millwork contractor will continue to install wood ceiling panels inside the North Orientation Theater. Similar work is expected to begin this week in the South Theater. The ceiling work should be completed by mid-September clearing the way for crews to dismantle the scaffolding and install the final acoustic wood panels to the theater walls.
- Crews have completed setting curb stones along the trees-lined pedestrian walkways leading to the CVC entrances and are nearly complete setting the stone to the exterior walls of the Congressional Auditorium.



Masons set floor stone in the lobby area just outside of the CVC's two Orientation Theaters.

- Stone installation is complete in both the House and Senate stairwell atria on all three levels. Installation of open circular staircases will begin once the scaffolding within the atria is removed. This will occur upon completion of the ceiling plaster and paint work around the skylights above both atria.
- Ceiling drywall installation is complete in the Food Service area to the extent that crews can begin installation of acoustic fabric ceiling panels to the ceiling soffits above the seating area and server areas as soon as the proper room temperature is established. An air handling unit is now moving conditioned air into the space and the required humidity levels should be reached later this week.
- Near the House Steps crews continue to set pavers and place an exposed aggregate concrete to restore the sidewalk at the southeast corner of the Capitol.
- On the Senate Plaza, masons continue to set bricks around the Senate Triangle to restore its historic characteristics.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Demolition crews in the LOC tunnel have broken through into the cellar of the Thomas Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress at the northwest corner. This area will serve as the transition zone between the Jefferson Building and the LOC tunnel coming from the Visitor Center.

Next Week – 8/28/06 – 9/01/06

CVC, East Front Plaza Work, East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- Installation of millwork will continue in the North and South Orientation Theaters.
- Floor stone installation will be completed in the Great Hall.
- In the Exhibition Hall, crews will begin assembling the steel support system for a nearly 200-foot-long marble wall that will house historic documents.
- Installation of base, wall and ceiling stone will continue inside the East Front transition zone. Stone installation will continue in the main lobby just east of the Orientation Theaters.
- Exterior wall stone work will continue at the CVC entrance zone and along the walls of the Congressional Auditorium.
- Crews will continue installing mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, metal stud walls, drywall and ductwork, and continue paint priming in various zones throughout the House and Senate Expansion Space. In the House space, crews have begun installation of metal framework to support interior stone in several areas.

For additional information about the Capitol Visitor Center project, please contact Tom Fontana, Project Communications Officer at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at tfontana@aac.gov. Other project information is available on the CVC web site at www.aac.gov.